

THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 7, 1916.

WHOLE NUMBER 1968

FORM AN EQUAL SUFFRAGE CLUB

Grows Out of Meeting of Three Women's Clubs of The City.

THE LADIES WANT TO VOTE

And Will Work With Other Such Clubs to get Equal Suffrage in State.

At the invitation of the Woman's club a large and representative meeting of women took place at the house of Mrs. W. A. Bahlke on Monday afternoon at three o'clock, those present being members of guests of the Woman's club, the Art club and the Civic Improvement league. The occasion of the meeting was the presenting of the report from the delegate, who was a joint delegate of three clubs, Mrs. J. N. Bistline, to the convention of the State Equal Suffrage association held recently at Grand Rapids.

Before the report was given, a timely article describing the present conditions in Flint, Michigan, was read by Mrs. Francis King; this article may be found in full in the Detroit Saturday Night of November 25th, 1916. Then followed a short report of a special committee of the league, Mrs. C. B. Gardner and Mrs. George Sharrar, on current prices of food in Alma and surrounding towns; this was followed by discussion. Dr. T. J. Carney, the health officer of Alma, then spoke for a short time on the need for polioing the streets, and on the movement to introduce pasteurized milk into the community. A petition was drawn up to be presented to the council, urging them to pass an ordinance for the protecting of the city's health by means of pure milk, and this was signed by many of the women present.

Mrs. Bistline in her report said Mrs. Caroline Bartlett Crane declared that \$50,000 would be raised in 1918, if it is decided to go into campaign at that time.

Mr. McKee said that the burden of financing the campaign was too much for the women, the men of the state must do their share for the future of the nation, and to do this the men must organize. They propose having men in the ranks of the alliance, in every county and township of the state, lending not only financial assistance, but helping the cause in every way possible.

At the banquet Thursday evening, State Senator Helen Ring Robinson of Colorado was the star speaker. She spoke briefly of the legislation for which the women of her state had been responsible—the eight hour law for women workers, the mother's pension bill and the minimum wage law for women.

Mrs. Judith Leontal of Chicago said: "Never did a new male citizen of twenty-one feel greater responsibility with his franchise, than do the women of Illinois."

Mrs. Caroline Bartlett Crane declared suffrage to be an active political question, as was shown in the presidential campaign just closed, said it was interesting to observe how the old objections to it have not only been answered, but dropped completely, as of no further interest. It is her conviction that the close of the European war will see the emancipation of the women of the world, as the responsibility woman has assumed in this war, shows plainly she is physically able to carry the responsibility of a voter.

It is her opinion that "the men who voted for prohibition, were the sons of those mothers who worked and prayed themselves gray-haired that their sons might do the right thing on every occasion."

Mark I. McKee of Detroit, secretary of the Michigan Fraternal Congress and Voter's league, suggested organizing a "Men's Suffrage Alliance" and guaranteeing to raise \$1,000 per month for the association. "They spend month before every election in useless study that they may vote on all questions wisely and effectively and not because their forefathers belonged to one or the other of the political parties." In many of the worst wars of Chicago, corrupt bosses have been defeated through the woman's vote.

Senator Robinson in a short address before leaving for her native state Friday morning, admonished the association to hold organization and efficient system as the two utmost influence for the success of their work.

After listening to this highly interesting and enthusiastic report, steps were taken toward the organizing of an Alma branch of the Michigan Equal Suffrage association. The following were elected officers of this branch: President, Miss Carolyn Robinson; first vice president, Mrs. Timothy; second vice president, Mrs. Hannah; secretary, Miss Edna Swigart. Notice of the first general meeting of the new society will appear in due course.

MISS DELAVAN DEAD

Miss Cathryn Delavan died Wednesday evening, December 6th. Interment will be at Jonesville, Michigan. A full obituary will be given next week.

NOTHING ON US

Women's Club Find Alma Prices Are About Right

At a meeting of the Civic Improvement league, The Women's club and the Art club held on Monday of this week at the home of Mrs. William A. Bahlke, the ladies delved into the H. C. of L. more commonly known as the high cost of living, and returned a verdict that greatly favors the Alma business man, and takes a slap at the rumors which have been floating around the city of late to the effect that Alma merchants were charging more than the merchants in our neighboring cities.

The ladies went into the matter with a view of ascertaining the prices in the various places of the county, using St. Louis, Ithaca, Elwell and Alma prices for the comparisons which they made in the effort to find if the local merchants were swindling the people of Alma. The ladies found that the prices in the four places varied little in any particulars, showing that Alma merchants were not charging the local public too much for their goods, but that the higher prices in Alma are due to a general rise over the entire country.

That it is a general rise over the entire country is shown by the efforts of similar women's organizations over the United States in dipping into the markets, and to the bills which are ready to be presented to which everyone admits is serious. But don't blame the Alma merchant, he didn't raise the prices over the entire country.

Get the "Habit of Happiness" with Douglas Fairbanks—Idlehour, Wednesday—Ad.

DEFEW WILL RETURN TO ALMA

It is being reported that Charles Depew, premier twirler and captain of the Alma college baseball team will return to college with the coming of the second semester and that he will again be available for the Alma college baseball team. Depew has been one of the mainstays of the Alma college pitching staff and his return to college will be warmly greeted by base ball fans. He will greatly strengthen the Alma college base ball team this coming spring.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RESCUES YOUNG GIRL

Timely Aid of Sixteen Year Old Lad Saved Her Life.

Plunging into the icy waters of Pine river late Tuesday afternoon, Carl Bragg, an Alma high school student, sixteen years old, pulled Lela Keep, a little five year old girl to safety, and without question his most creditable act, saved the girl from drowning.

It seems that the Keep girl, who just started in the kindergarten this year, was on her way home from school, in company with Lena White, both of whom live on Eastward street. The young girls started to cross a plank bridge across the river, which had been put in place to enable workmen from the factories to make a big short cut, going to and from work. One of the center planks of the single plank bridge was sprung, and the little girl in some way lost her balance, while on the swaying plank and tumbled into the cold waters of the Pine, and immediately sank, while the White girl, terrified at her companion's plight, shouted for help.

The shouts of the White girl brought Carl Bragg to the scene at once, and just as he arrived the little girl started down for a second time. Bragg quickly threw off his coat and plunged into the river, and waded out in water up to his neck, to the center of the river after the young girl, whom he brought to shore. Bragg took the little girl to a neighboring house, where she was cared for until later in the day.

While the river at this point is not deep and was not over Bragg's head, it completely submerged the little girl, and everything points to the fact that had it not been for the quick action of Bragg, the little girl would have drowned.

When asked about the affair Wednesday at school by the Record reporter, young Bragg blushed deeply, shifted his weight from one foot to the other, and in a remarkably modest way, told the story of the affair, in which he kept himself in the background as much as possible.

Lela Keep is the daughter of Orin Keep, 1027 Eastward street, and Carl Bragg is the son of William Bragg, 110 Michigan avenue.

See Douglas Fairbanks in "The Habit of Happiness"—Idlehour, Wednesday—Ad.

WEATHER SUMMARY

P. M. Smith reports the following for November in regard to the weather. The mean maximum temperature was 46 degrees and the mean minimum was 28 degrees. The maximum was 65 on the 7th and 8th and the minimum was two degrees on the 15th and 16th. The total precipitation for the month was 2.16 inches, being 60 on the 9th. The total snowfall for the month was four inches. The number of clear days 7, and the number of cloudy 14.

Pay Before January 1, 1917

WE ARE more than pleased with the manner in which the patrons of The Record have responded to our call for a pay-up before January 1st. Hundreds have paid up from one to five years in advance. There are many more who should call that cannot afford to let this offer go by. Pay up your back subscription to January 1st, and in advance as far as you wish at \$1.00 per year. After that date the price will be \$1.50. To all subscribers outside of the county the price will be \$1.50 cash in advance, although they may take the same advantage and renew by paying up at \$1.00 in advance before January 1st, as far as they wish. Statements are being sent to outside county subscribers and we hope all will respond to the call.

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VOTE TO ACQUIRE A WATERWORKS

Council Moved to Submit This Question to Electors on December 27.

MAY BOND FOR \$60,000.00

With Which to Build a Water Works Will be Submitted to Voters at Same Time.

At a special meeting of the Common Council of the city of Alma held in the council chamber last night, it was voted to submit two propositions to the voters of the city of Alma on Wednesday, December 27th. One proposition to be submitted will be the question of voting to acquire a water works or pumping station, and the other proposition will be the question of bonding for \$60,000.00 for the purpose of constructing a pumping station and the extension of the water mains.

The entire council worked harmoniously together and every resolution offered during the meeting was given a unanimous vote, with one exception and on that measure there was only one nay vote. It gave evidence that the councilmen had gone into the proposition and knew just what they were going at and where they expected to arrive, when the business of the session was over.

A resolution offered by Alderman Ward and supported by Adams, and given a unanimous vote, offered the opinion that the acquisition of a water works was expedient and a necessary public improvement, and following another resolution the mayor appointed a committee to determine whether the city should acquire a water works by purchase or by acquisition, and to make an estimate of the cost of construction.

Following a legal opinion from the city attorney, the committee reported in favor of the acquisition by construction, and on figures furnished by engineers, estimated \$60,000.00 as enough to cover the cost.

In part the committee reported as follows: After a full investigation of the conditions in the city of Alma, we are of the opinion that it is advisable that the city of Alma acquire a water works by constructing an adequate water works and by the extension of the present system of water mains in the city of Alma.

We have had before us detailed estimates of the cost of an adequate water works and the cost of extending the present system of water mains. We are of the opinion that the extension of the present system of water works and the extension of the present system of water mains can be constructed at a cost of \$60,000.00.

Following the report, the council held a short discussion of the matter and heard the city attorney's opinion and then passed favorably on the resolution.

This done a resolution set the date of the special election as Wednesday, December 27th, and another set the day of registration as Saturday, December 23th.

Get the "Habit of Happiness" with Douglas Fairbanks—Idlehour, Wednesday—Ad.

BEET CONTRACTS

The new sugar beet contract will have a guaranteed flat price of \$6.00 per ton with a rise per ton over this amount equal to the average wholesale selling price of sugar over \$6.00 according to Willett & Gray's Sugar Journal, New York city, for the three last months in the year and the first month in the new year.

That is, if the average price of sugar for these four months is \$6.50, we will pay \$6.50 for beets, if \$7.00, we will pay \$7.00 for beets, but the \$6.00 price is guaranteed regardless of the price of sugar.

So far as we know now, labor will be the same as last year, with the exception of a little difference in the division of the payments.

OUR CHRISTMAS ISSUE

The annual Christmas issue of the Alma Record will come from the press next week Thursday, December 14th. Our reason for getting the issue out at that time is so the merchants will be able to get the fullest benefits from their advertising for the Christmas trade, as the issue of the following week would only give them the advantage of two shopping days. We would appreciate it greatly, if the merchants would have their advertising copy ready early, this week if possible, as it will aid us greatly to be able to get the greater part of the advertisements in type this week. We would also like to call the attention to the fact that we will get out a far larger edition than usual in our Christmas issue.

A FEW THINGS ABOUT PASTEURIZED MILK

Will Give Alma Pure Milk and Plenty of It at a Lower Price Than Now.

The essential features of the pasteurizing proposition are as follows: Price, eight cents a quart, which price is to continue until the producers reaches two dollars per hundred pounds present price from \$1.40 to \$1.70. The entire city will be supplied from wagons at least once each day with all the milk needed. There will be a central station on Superior street at which further supply may be had at any time. The price of cream will remain as at present with owners of cows within the city may have their milk pasteurized at the plant at cost price during the first year of the project. All persons who are depending on their cows as a means of maintaining the family are to have the privilege of continuing to use the pasteurizing plant by paying the actual cost of pasteurization for as long a period as they desire. The purpose of this is to avoid inflicting any hardships on persons who have been depending on their cows as a means of helping to maintain the family. In cases where it is not convenient for widow women or old people, coming under the above conditions to convey their milk to the plant for pasteurization the milk will be collected by the wagons and pasteurized milk exchanged for the same.

Under the pasteurizing proposition a wholesome sanitary milk is at all times assured, which is also free from any foreign matter or sediment of any kind or character and will contain less than thirty thousand bacteria per C. C. (or fifteen drops) instead of half a million or more as at present, making it practically impossible to convey disease through milk. A few years ago the older citizens of Alma had a practical lesson on the danger of milk contamination in the way of a typical epidemic caused by contamination of the milk. During the epidemic many lives were lost, which under more sanitary milk conditions might have been saved.

A glance at the following figures will convince you at once of what the pasteurizing project will save the citizens of Alma in the course of a year. It is conservatively estimated that twelve hundred quarts a day are now needed in Alma; the present retail price of which is nine cents, therefore the saving over eight cents (the pasteurized price) would amount to twelve dollars a day or \$4,380 a year.

Now is it fair that citizens of Alma should pay this sum of money as a tribute to some thirty-seven people who are present keeping cows within the city limits and who are making a few dollars each year?

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COUNTY HISTORY

On another page will be found an advertisement for the History of Gratiot County. A remarkable holiday offer is being given by the author of this truly great history of the county. It is probable that another chance to buy these histories at this low price will never again be given.

Record Wants Ads for Results

HIS OPINION IS SURPRISE

City Attorney Says Local Waterworks Cannot Be Purchased by City.

VOICED AT SPECIAL MEETING

Joint Water and Electric Light Plant Cannot Be Purchased by Bonds.

At a special meeting of the city council last night, City Attorney Jas. A. Greene, threw a bomb into the council chamber, when he read an opinion as to the legality of purchasing the water works of the Alma Grain & Lumber company.

Attorney Greene in his lengthy report dwelt at length on the law governing the purchasing of a water works by a fourth class city, giving the law in several instances, and then he took up the proposition of purchasing an electric light plant, under the laws as they relate on fourth-class cities. He said that the city could bond to purchase either of them alone. He then pointed out that the Alma Grain & Lumber company's plant was a joint water works and electric light plant, and that the law governing the bonding for water works and electric light plants so read, that the city would be unable to purchase that plant, the state laws, giving no power to buy a joint plant by fourth-class cities.

He also gave the council to understand that after the city had acquired a water works, it could vote on a proposition to buy an electric light plant and combine the two, but that they could not be purchased jointly.

This paved the way for the adoption of the report of the committee to acquire a water works by construction.

GIVE "MESSIAH"

Chorus of One Hundred Voices to Give Handel's "Messiah."

The second annual performance of Thursday evening Dec. 14, 1916, in the Presbyterian church auditorium. This number is the second in the course of programs under the auspices The Alma Music Club. There will be a chorus of 100 voices under the direction of Reese F. Veatch, the Alma chorus being augmented by the St. Louis Messiah Chorus.

Visiting soloists of exceptional talent have been secured for this occasion.



NORAH CRANE HUNT Contralto

sion, Norah Crane Hunt, contralto, is soloist at the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor and instructor in the University school of Music. Kenneth Westerman, tenor, was formerly director of the University Glee Club and is at present instructor in the University school of Music. Helen Cochrane, soprano, is head of the vocal department of Ferris Institute at Big Rapids. Chase Sykes, bass, is soloist at Ann Arbor Episcopal Church. Mr. Sykes was soloist at the Ann Arbor May festival held last May. Grace D. Roberts, of Alma will have charge of the pipe-organ and Hazel Everingham of Mt. Pleasant will be the pianist for the occasion.

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Record Want Ads for Results

WANT PASTEURIZATION

All Women at Joint Club Meeting Sign Petition to Council

At the joint meeting of the Civic Improvement league, the Art Club and the Women's club, at the home of Mrs. William A. Bahlke on Monday of this week, a petition was drawn up which will be presented to the council, and which is expected to go a long way towards bringing about an ordinance calling for the pasteurization of milk in Alma.

Nearly sixty women were present at the meeting, and after Dr. T. J. Carney had made an address on the subject, the petition was drawn up, and one after another of the ladies signed it, and it is said that every woman present attached her signature to the petition. The action of these women may be taken as a view of the women of the entire city, and it shows that Alma wants pasteurized milk.

It is expected that the proposed ordinance will be submitted to the city council at an early date and it is not expected that there will be any great trouble in securing the passage of the measure.

It is understood that two men stand ready to start a pasteurizing plant in Alma, immediately that such an ordinance is passed, and that they will guarantee to supply the city with eight cent milk for a year at least.

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DISSOLVE PARTNERSHIP

The firm of Brown & Hubbard, plumbers and furnace installers, has been dissolved by the mutual consent of the two, and the business in the future will be conducted alone by the senior member of the firm, Mr. R. H. Brown. E. J. Hubbard, the retiring member of the firm, is as yet undecided as to the immediate future, but it is to be hoped that he will be elected to remain in Alma. Mr. Brown expects to continue the business of the firm at the old place of business on East Superior street.

WOMEN IN CITIES ARE STAGING BOYCOTTS

Congress Also is Facing a Job in Reducing High Cost of Living in U. S.

Throughout the United States the larger cities are instituting boycotts, as a means of lowering the excessive high cost of living. Congress will also investigate the H. C. of L.

Women of the various cities are out investigating the high prices, with a view of finding out if they are being caused by gambling in food stuffs, commonly known as speculation. The investigations are being conducted through the various women's clubs of these cities.

The women have taken up a huge task in the efforts to boycott and bring about lower prices, it would seem, yet in some instances they have been successful in gringing prices down. One feature of the work of the present congress will be directly along the same lines, and the congressional investigation may result in the introduction of some drastic legislation to pull down the prices.

One of the prize features of the legislation that will probably be before congress will be a bill to prohibit the exportation of foodstuffs. The big reason for the appearance of this bill is to keep foodstuffs in the United States for home consumption, as the country's supply is not equal to the demand. It may be that the embargo on foodstuffs would also materially shorten the war, but it is very doubtful if this side of the question was looked at, when the bill was thought of. There is no question, but what this bill is aimed at the present high prices. Eleven bills in all are waiting to be introduced in the present congress, all of them aimed at reducing the high cost of living, which is reaching a serious point, when doctors and nurses in many of our cities claim that children are slowly starving because they cannot get food enough.

That boycotts of the women in the larger cities can have a big effect in lowering prices seems certain. Just before Thanksgiving in New York the women boycotted turkeys and the prices tumbled at a rapid rate. The women of New York and the entire state of New York are still up in arms and are threatening now an enlarging of their boycott.

In Michigan several of the larger cities have instituted boycotts or are threatening to do so. In Detroit the women have boycotted eggs until January 1st, 1917 in the hopes of bringing down the price on this food. Grand Rapids women are investigating the markets with a view of ascertaining whether merchants or stock jugglers are responsible for the high cost of living. The women of Bay City and other places are threatening to do the same. In Kalamazoo the city has taken charge of the coal situation and is selling coal to the poor at cost.

Alma women have found that local prices are the same as in other places and will not agitate the proposition, of the report from the delegate,

POULTRY SHOW TO BE WINNER

Indications Point to Most Successful Show That Has Been Held

WILL HAVE SPECIAL PREMIUMS

Better Prizes and Premiums Offered This Year Than Has Been Case in the Past.

This year the Central Michigan Poultry Association is offering far better prizes than in the past two years for the various prize birds in the various classes, and it is expected that the larger inducements will bring in a far larger number of birds for exhibition at the annual show, which will be held in Alma from December 28th to January 1st, inclusive.

C. A. Bloss of Flint, one of the best known judges of the state of Michigan has been secured to judge the exhibits this year. The judging will be based on the rules of the American Poultry Association.

Among the special premiums offered this year are the following: one \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the American Class; one \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the Asiatic Class; one \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the English Class; one \$10.00 silver loving cup for the best display in the Mediterranean Class; and one \$5.00 silver cup for the best display of bantams.

The following gold sweepstakes are also offered this year: \$5.00 in gold by the association for the best cockerel in the American Class; \$5.00 in gold by the association for the best cockerel in the Asiatic Class; \$5.00 in gold offered by the association for the best cockerel in the Mediterranean Class and \$5.00 in gold offered by the association for the best cockerel in the English Class.

The regular premiums of the various classes follow: All first prize birds receive twenty-five per cent of the entry fees of their class and all second prize birds receive fifteen per cent of the entry fees of their class. In addition to cash and special prizes, ribbons are given for first, second, third and fourth prizes. Special prizes will also be given for pet stock, or the same basis.

All entries for the show will close December 27th and all exhibits must be in the show room by noon, December 28th.

PROPECTS GOOD

High School Should Have a Strong Basketball Team.

Couch Lake of the Alma high school basketball team has the candidates for the orange and black basketball outfit out working for positions, and feels even now that the high school has a chance for a speedy aggregation this winter.

Fifteen men are out for the team this year, among whom are four veterans, Campbell, Howe, Medler and Smith. Besides these experienced local men Lake has three others who have had experience in White, Fuller and Stauffer. Right at the start the coach called a meeting of the candidates and told them that clean playing was one thing that he wanted and would insist upon.

A good schedule is being arranged, which is still far from completed. Games have so far been arranged with Cadillac, Mt. Pleasant, these being home and home affairs. Owosso is also booked. Big Rapids, Saginaw Eastern, Grand Rapids Central and Grand Union are other good schools that may be booked for games. The games with the Grand Rapids teams will be played on a two day trip, if both are scheduled. Other good teams also will be booked.

See Douglas Fairbanks in "The Habit of Happiness"—Idlehour, Wednesday—Ad.

RED CROSS SEALS

Tuberculosis Seals are Again on Sale.

The little Red Cross Seals, made famous in the past years in the fight against tuberculosis throughout the country again are on sale in Gratiot county and efforts are being made to win prizes in the various cities and towns of the county.

Particularly is this true in Alma, and Mrs. V. H. Shepard, county chairman is making every effort to increase the annual sale of the Red Cross stickers this year and win honors in the city in the fight against the White Plague. Your use of the seals will show that you are taking part in the fight to free the state and nation of tuberculosis.

The little red seals, which mean so much to the thousands of sufferers over the United States, cost just one cent each. Get interested a little in this great movement and purchase a few stickers to use on your letters and Christmas packages. Have an interest in humanity's great fight to free the country of the dreaded white plague.